

all." " We have no cause to imagine that the Treaty has a point against any other Power," declared the Chancellor in the Reichstag on April 12, 1904. " It seems to be an attempt to remove a number of differences by peaceful methods. We have nothing, from the standpoint of German interests, to object to in that. As to Morocco, we are in essence only interested in the economic sphere. It is therefore of importance for us that tranquillity and order exist there. We have commercial interests, which we must and shall protect. We have, however, no ground to fear that they will be overlooked or infringed." The Pan-Germans, grumbling that Germany had been humiliated, demanded the Atlantic coast, but the Kaiser informed King Edward at the Kiel regatta that Morocco had never interested him.

Despite these reassuring words Germany felt that her interests had been contemptuously ignored. Morocco, wrote Holstein, was one of the few countries where German commerce could compete on equal terms. Railway and other , schemes were afoot, and the French system of virtual monopoly would be fatal to its hopes. Even more disastrous would be the loss of prestige if the Government looked on with folded arms while national interests were given away. " If we let ourselves be trampled on in Morocco, we invite similar treatment elsewhere." With this reasoning Biilow fully agreed. He had a good legal case and he was determined that it should prevail: the only question was the time and method of putting it forward. Visiting the Wilhelmstrasse on April 26 to express satisfaction at the Chancellor's speech on April 12, the French Ambassador was struck by the glacial attitude of the Foreign Minister. "More and more," he telegraphed to Peicass6, "I believe that Biilow's declarations

dissemble his
profound dissatisfaction." He had guessed
right. Action in
Morocco, wrote the Chancellor to his Ambassador
at Paris on
July 21, involved far-reaching consequences
and required
careful thought* It was improbable that
England would take
her obligations of diplomatic support very
seriously. France
had paid England a good price and completely
ignored Ger-
many, whose commercial activities in Morocco
had increased
so rapidly that it was vital to prevent a monopoly.
How ought
they to proceed ? They could provoke an offer of
compensa-
tion by action in Morocco and by stiffening the
Sultan's back,
replied Radolin, so long as England left them a
free hand*
Anglo-French opposition on the other hand
could compel